

OPC Bulletin

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • FEBRUARY 1996

Lapham: Press Kowtows to Rich and Powerful

By David S. Fondiller

Lewis H. Lapham, editor of *Harper's Magazine*, blasted what he called today's "courtier press" at the OPC Foundation's annual scholarship lunch on Jan. 25.

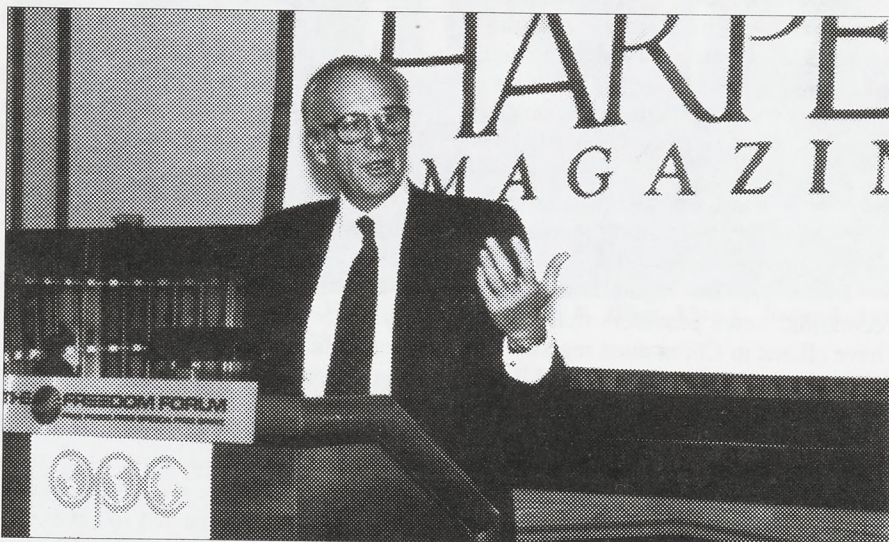
In bemoaning the decline of investigative journalism and the practice of cozying up to sources, Lapham did not hesitate to name names.

"The idea that somebody like Bob Woodward is presented as an investigative journalist is a joke," Lapham said. "Much of what now passes for big-time journalism is whisper-gossip—the dying Bill Casey, Iran-Contra."

In another example, he cited David Halberstam's book, *The Best and the Brightest*. "There's not a single named source," Lapham charged. "Conversations were reconstructed. It passes in a world that doesn't care about history as truth."

Speaking before an audience of 100 journalists and media executives at the McGraw-Hill Building in Manhattan, Lapham also accused the mainstream media of kowtowing to America's rich and powerful.

"Today, we [Americans] are now at the zenith of our economic power...and we ride in triumph through the streets of



Lewis H. Lapham at the OPC Foundation's annual lunch.

New York or Washington or London. Our media stands behind us and says, 'Know that you are a god.'...It's a very dangerous attitude."

Lapham recalled that when he started out as a reporter in 1957, he was the only Ivy League graduate at the *San*
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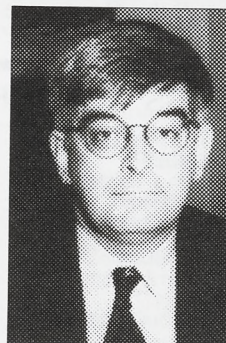
Why Does the American Media Keep Getting the Story Wrong on Japan?

By Eamonn Fingleton

TOKYO—Almost as soon as the Tokyo stock market started tumbling in the first months of 1990, the American press began writing off the Japanese economic challenge. Since then, hardly a week has gone by without some influential American magazine or newspaper declaring Japan to be in "the grip of a dire economic slump" or even to have "hit the wall."

So much for the press's version of Japan. The story of the real Japan has been different. So different in fact that in the fullness of time, it will provide a new focus for the American reading public's anger over a perceived decline in the American press's reliability.

The real Japan has actually been performing quite impressively in the



Eamonn Fingleton

1990s: Japanese per capita income at current exchange rates recently passed Switzerland's to become the world's highest. All through the 1990s, corporate Japan has been investing two to three times as much per job as corporate America. And Japan's unemployment rate remains the lowest of any major industrial country.

Of course, not everything in the Japanese economy has been doing well.
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OPC Fights China Crackdown on Foreign News

By Norman Schorr and Dinah Lee

The OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee has joined major U.S. wire services in protesting the Chinese Government's decision to have Xinhua, the country's national news agency, supervise foreign financial news services.

The Committee said it was "profoundly alarmed" by the proposed supervision, which would seriously jeopardize the integrity and authenticity of economic news from and in China.

"The controls to be imposed on news services would cause a loss of world confidence in China as an economic partner," the Committee's letter to Chinese President Jiang Zemin and Prime Minister Li Peng stated.

Under the new regulations, foreign economic news providers that already have clients in China must register with Xinhua within three months. All new economic news services must be approved by Xinhua, which also is authorized to decide what kinds of economic information each news service is allowed to disseminate in China.

The order also allows Xinhua to punish foreign economic news providers if their released information to Chinese users contains anything forbidden by Chinese laws and regulations, or slanders or jeopardizes the national interests of China.

The OPC pointed out that the proposed regulations could cause delays, interruptions and possible censorship of financial news. "This can harm Chinese banks and businesses," the Committee

continued, "threaten China's effort to be admitted to the World Trade Organization, and demonstrate that there exists a need for greater understanding that the free exchange of information is an essential underpinning of success in the marketplace."

China's response to the OPC protest came from the PRC Embassy in Washington, which defended the move. The government denied that there would be any adverse effect or any censorship. A Xinhua representative said that the supervision would help protect intellectual property of both foreign and domestic "information organs."

In other news, the Committee has been actively campaigning against anti-press violence throughout the world.

In a letter to General Than Shwe of Myanmar, the Committee expressed great concern about imprisoned magazine editor **Myo Myint Nyein** who has been in Insein Jail since September 1990. According to letters recently smuggled out and sent to United Nations officials, the *What's Happening* editor has been subjected to severe ill-treatment since mid-November 1995.

In Nigeria, raids on the homes of leading editors of *Tell* newsmagazine, arrests of many other editors, long prison sentences and the shutdown of more than 15 independent publications prompted a strong OPC protest to General Sani Abacha, head of state.

"This level of repression reveals how much your government is afraid of the truth," the OPC charged. The country's "abuse of freedom of expression is a

matter of grave concern to your neighboring African countries and to the world community seeking to improve the well-being of all people."

The OPC has also demanded an investigation into the beating death of journalist **Metin Gokt'pe** in Istanbul, Turkey. Gokt'pe suffered a brain hemorrhage and other injuries when beaten by police after his detention at the funeral of two political prisoners.

According to Amnesty International, an autopsy revealed that the injuries to the head and broken ribs of the *Evrensal* newspaper journalist were recognized as having been caused by a blunt object.

Two fellow journalist witnesses reported that Gokt'pe showed his press card when he was arrested, but he was beaten and dragged away by police. The OPC has called for a thorough and impartial investigation so that those responsible can be brought to justice.

In addition, the Committee has condemned the arrest of **Freedom Naruda**, staffer at *La Voie* independent opposition daily in Ivory Coast, as well as the two-year prison sentence imposed on two of his colleagues.

The three were charged with insulting the head of state by suggesting that he brought bad luck to the Ivorian ASEC soccer team when he attended the African Champions Cup final. ASEC, which had been favored, lost to South Africa's Orlando Pirates.

"It is shocking to learn," the OPC wrote, "that an article about a soccer match...no doubt written in good

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Six Young Journalists Win OPC Scholarships

By David S. Fondiller

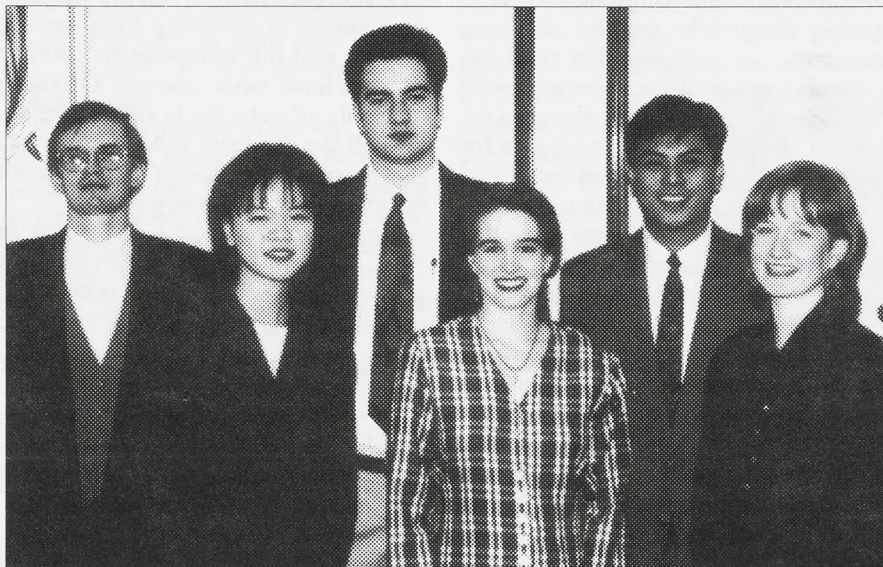
Six young journalists from around the country were honored with \$1,000 scholarships at the OPC Foundation's annual awards lunch on Jan. 25.

The recipients, all recent college or graduate students, won based on essays they submitted on an aspect of international news coverage. They were selected from a pool of 71 applicants.

"We at the Overseas Press Club see this as one of the most important things we do," said OPC President **Bill Holstein**. "Not that \$1,000 is going to change the life of any of these young people but we hope that, like our [Annual] Awards, they clearly identify people who have excelled. And that changes their careers."

In accepting the scholarships, several winners said the awards would inspire them to pursue their goals in foreign reporting.

"I will use this award to prove that journalism is more art than trade," vowed **Igor Shnurenko**, a former journalist from St. Petersburg who is now studying at the University of Missouri's Graduate School of Journalism. He won



From left: Igor Shnurenko, Wing Cheung, Andrei N. Illias, Lisa L. Roland, Jose Roberto Alampay and Kim Baker.

the Harper's Magazine Scholarship in memory of I.F. Stone for his essay, "How Stereotypes Kill: The Media Coverage of the Bosnian War."

Expressing another recurrent theme, **Kim Baker**, a student at Columbia University's Graduate School of

Journalism, noted that the \$1,000 award was a significant contribution to her tight student budget. "I really appreciate the investment that you're making in me," she said. Baker won the Reuters Scholarship for her essay, "Kosovo: Prime for Attention."

Other scholarship recipients were:

Andrei N. Illias, a Romanian-born student at Indiana University's Graduate School of Journalism. He won the Alexander Kendrick Scholarship for his essay, "The Need for Improved Press Coverage of Eastern Europe."

Lisa L. Roland, a senior at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. She won the newly created H.L. Stevenson Memorial Scholarship for her essay, "Understanding the former Soviet Union." To establish the scholarship, friends donated almost \$5,000; the Freedom Forum contributed another \$5,000.

Jose Roberto Alampay, a Philippines-born student at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. He won the David R. Schweisberg Memorial Scholarship for his essay, "Towards Better Coverage of Southeast Asia."

Wing Cheung, a recent graduate of Baruch College currently completing an internship at InterPress Service. She won the Harper's Magazine Scholarship in memory of A.J. Liebling for her essay, "Hong Kong: Not Just Economics."

LAPHAM

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Francisco Examiner. Back then, virtually no American used the high-sounding term "journalist" to describe a reporter or newspaperman. And nobody expected to make any money at the craft.

"We tended to identify with the people in the bleachers, not with the people in the box seats," he said. "I think we now have, by and large—present company excepted—a 'courtier press.'"

Most of Lapham's talk was devoted to his scheduled topic, "The New American Ruling Class"—that 1-2% of the population that controls 90% of the national wealth.

He noted that over the last 20 years, the nature of America's "equestrian class," as he called it, has dramatically changed. It is no longer uniquely American. It's also lost its sense of responsibility toward the less fortunate and its interest in history and politics.

"There's very little patriotism among the people I'm talking about. They have more in common with their economic peers in England, Japan and Germany than they do with the run-of-the-mill

American," he said.

Lapham is the author of several books including *Money and Class in America*. A native of San Francisco, he worked for the *New York Herald Tribune* from 1960 to 1962. He joined *Harper's* in 1971. As editor, he has lectured at many of the nation's leading universities and has appeared frequently on television and radio. He joined the OPC in 1989.



Allen H. Neuharth, chairman of the Freedom Forum, presented plans for a Freedom Forum memorial that will feature the names of more than 900 journalists from around the world who died in the line of duty.

The memorial will be part of The Freedom Forum's "Newseum"—a museum dedicated to the past, present and future of news—in Arlington, Va. It will be dedicated on May 20, and the Newseum will open in 1997.

JAPAN COVERAGE

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In particular economic growth has been notably sluggish by previous Japanese standards. But even here the news has not been that bad. Japan's growth in the first five years of the 1990s averaged 2.1 percent. By comparison the figure for the United States was 2.0 percent.

Perhaps the most startling aspect of Japan's performance is in the thing that matters most to American policy makers—Japan's external economic power. Japan's ability to project ever more power abroad was the main reason why the Japanese challenge became such an issue in Washington in the late 1980s. And the truth is that Japan has unquestionably enjoyed a further huge boost in its external economic power in the last five years.

The key measure of Japan's external clout is exports. Exports are crucial because they provide the revenues to fund virtually every manifestation of Japan's external clout. They pay not only for Japan's imports but its massive worldwide direct investment activities, its purchases of U.S. Treasury bonds, its foreign aid program, its influence-buying in foreign capitals, and its access to the services of leading Western scientists, industrial designers, and inventors.

So how have Japan's exports been doing? Just fine, thanks. In the teeth of a rising yen that the American press said would flatten the Japanese export machine, Japan consistently increased its share of Group of Seven exports in the first half the 1990s. The result is that measured in U.S. dollars, its exports rose by more than 50 percent between 1989 and 1995—and, with wage costs 30 percent higher than American levels, Japan has now superseded the United States as the world's largest net exporter of manufactured goods. Most astonishingly of all, in the first five years of the 1990s, Japan's current account surpluses totalled more than for the whole of the 1980s.

In view of facts like these, why has the press been writing off the Japanese economic challenge? The reason is that it has displayed virtually every weakness that critics lay at the American press's door:

Short-termism. Occasional monthly dips in Japan's exports, for instance, get big coverage whereas underlying trends are ignored.

Distortion. Take the reported slump

in Japan's car exports. The story is true as far as it goes—but it leaves out a crucial fact. The reality is that the Japanese car industry is switching from making cars to making components, whose exports have been soaring. Offshore assembly of vehicles is rising rapidly. Overall the Japanese auto industry has shown some of the fastest export growth of any industry in recent years.

Sensationalism. At one point in 1993, an effort by Pioneer Electronic to get just 30 executives to take early retirement was front-page news in the United States.

U.S. publishers must shoulder a disproportionate share of the blame because they don't provide adequate training for Japan duty.

Thesis journalism. Reporters postulate theories and then bend the facts to fit. Take, for instance, the much repeated story that Japan has suffered a big rise in "hidden" unemployment in recent years. In truth this idea is discounted by acknowledged authorities such as the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics—but reporters ignore the contrary evidence.

Lack of context. Japan's housing loan crisis, for instance, would look more manageable if reporters put it in the context of an economy that is now generating more than 50 percent of the OECD area's total savings. Japan's net savings in 1994 were more than four times America's.

Wishful thinking. The press constantly clutches at straws in presenting America as the supposed victor in global competition. Take, for instance, a report last year that Quantum Corporation was leading a successful American comeback in hard-disks. Quantum's disks are certainly nice—but the truth is that Quantum does not make them. It is merely a merchandiser of disks made by Matsushita Kotobuki of Japan!

Ideological blindspots. The press has constantly predicted the demise of Japan's lifetime employment system in recent years but has not stopped to wonder why similar predictions going back to the 1960s have been confounded. In reality, reports of the system's downfall are based on an ideological assumption that free market logic is universal. It

isn't—as anyone who knows Japan is reminded every day of the week.

Perhaps the most disturbing failing of all has been the press's susceptibility to Japan's counterintuitive public relations agenda. Japanese economic and business leaders constantly apply a negative spin to the news. Japan Inc.'s hard luck stories are intended to win sympathy abroad and thus win time in trade negotiations. This latter motive has been crucial to much of what Japan Inc. has been saying about itself in the last few years, particularly since President Clinton's hawkish trade negotiators came to office.

Who's to blame for the press's misunderstandings? Essentially reporters, editors and publishers divide the honors—but publishers must shoulder a disproportionate share because they have never provided adequate training for Japan duty. By contrast, Japanese publishers spend years or even decades grooming Japanese reporters to cover the U.S.

Eamonn Fingleton, an OPC member, is author of "Blindside: Why Japan is Still on Track to Overtake the U.S. by the Year 2000" (Houghton Mifflin, 1995). He lives in Tokyo.

CHINA CRACKDOWN

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Norman Schorr and Dinah Lee are co-chairs of the Freedom of the Press Committee, along with Larry Martz.

Two OPC Women Leave Legacies of Achievement

Anita Diamant Berke

By Felice Levin

Anita Diamant Berke, the Overseas Press Club's first and only woman president, died suddenly on Jan. 13 at her home in Weston, Conn. She was 78.

Anita was in a class of her own. Decades before the women's movement proclaimed to a dubious world that "women can have it all," Anita was demonstrating that with talent, energy, determination, intelligence, charm, stamina, and perhaps a bit of luck, a woman could succeed on all fronts: as a businesswoman, professional writer, organization leader, teacher, world traveler, wife, mother and mentor. And it could be managed with verve, grace and fun along the way.

When Anita assumed the club presidency in 1982, a fellow OPCer noted that "Anita can do anything." She certainly proved that in her 41 years of ser-

vice to the club. Anita joined the OPC in 1955 and served continuously on its Board of Governors from 1967, when, in her words, she was named as the "token woman."

She held virtually every top office, including two terms each as secretary, treasurer and first vice president, along with chairing key committees. She initiated "book nights," with Senator John F. Kennedy as the first guest. When interviewed on her coup, she said, "I was unaware of proper channels and in my naiveté called the Senator. He answered the phone personally, and when I invited him, he said, 'yes.' It was so easy."

Anita made it all seem easy, including her chairmanship for years of the Annual Awards Dinner, where she combined enviable composure as mistress of ceremonies with meticulous attention to details.

After working as a writer for *McCall's*, she created and operated the

successful Anita Diamant Literary Agency, which currently represents 125 writers. In addition, she was an adjunct professor of journalism at Long Island University and a frequent speaker at conferences, where she tried to guide aspiring but uninitiated writers along the publishing industry's intricate pathways. She was also a former president of the New York chapter of Theta Sigma Phi (now Women in Communications). Anita was a woman for all seasons.

She is survived by her daughter, Allyson, and two grandchildren. Her husband, Hal Berke, died in 1972. There will be a memorial service for Anita at the Williams Club on Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 6 p.m.



Anita Diamant

Irene Corbally Kuhn

By Elinor Griest

Just two weeks before her 98th birthday, OPC co-founder Irene Corbally Kuhn died on Dec. 30 at a home in Concord, Mass. Until the very end, the club was always close to her heart. She was proud of her part in its birth and of having been elected twice as vice president on its Board of Governors, among her many other contributions.

Her career began early. At age 16 she won an essay contest and decided to become a professional writer and see the world. From age 22 on, she travelled to six continents as a newspaper reporter, columnist, radio broadcaster, author and magazine writer. Yet "home," for most of her life, remained Greenwich Village in New York, where she was born and grew up in a large Irish-American family.

At a time when women were not encouraged, and rarely welcome, in newsrooms and broadcast studios, Irene pioneered her way with ingenuity, determination and proven talent. After graduating from Marymount College and

Columbia University, she joined news staffs in New York (*Syracuse Herald*, *Daily Mirror*, *Daily News*, *World-Telegram* and NBC Radio), Paris (*Chicago Tribune*), Shanghai (*Evening Star*), and Honolulu (International News Service and *Star-Bulletin*). In between she travelled to other parts of the world.

In the 1930s she hosted one of the first interview shows for the Mutual Broadcasting Company. As a New York *World-Telegram* feature writer, she sent back the first stories from Britain on the political crisis brought on by the love affair between Wallis Simpson and Edward VIII.

By 1938, her drama-packed life had inspired an autobiography, *Assigned to Adventure*, which made the *New York Times* bestseller list.

On Palm Sunday in 1939—the year she joined NBC—Irene met eight other foreign correspondents for breakfast at the Algonquin Hotel in midtown. On that morning they launched the OPC. Fifty years later, in 1989, the Society of Professional Journalists named the Algonquin a "historic site in journalism."

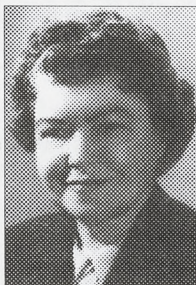
In 1940 as NBC's assistant director of information, she originated the idea of "Good Neighbor" broadcasts to foster closer relations with Latin American countries. Then, as World War II was ending in the spring of 1945, she flew

over "the Hump" from India to China, where she managed to broadcast the first reports to the U.S. in August, from liberated Shanghai via a U.S. Seventh Fleet communications ship.

In later years, she wrote a syndicated column, "In My Opinion," for King Features, then as a freelancer contributed travel articles and reminiscences to various magazines, most notably a series for *Gourmet*.

Irene Corbally Kuhn will be remembered for many things. But above all, she will be remembered for her humanity and integrity in a ruthlessly competitive business. She never engaged in the no-holds-barred practice of covering people as public property without privacy rights. "From the time I began reporting," she once said, "I felt a sense of responsibility to those I wrote about, because you hold people's lives in your hands. You can destroy them—or you can give them a lift up."

A memorial service and reception, co-sponsored by the OPC, are planned for some time in April. Memorial donations may be made toward a scholarship in her name for students interested in international reporting. Please send contributions to: OPC Foundation (earmarked for "Irene Corbally Kuhn Scholarship Fund"), 320 East 42 St., New York, N.Y. 10017.



Irene Kuhn

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Anita made it all seem easy, including her chairmanship for years of the Annual Awards Dinner, where she combined enviable composure as mistress of ceremonies with meticulous attention to details.

After working as a writer for *McCall's*, she created and operated the

successful Anita Diamant Literary Agency, which currently represents 125 writers. In addition, she was an adjunct professor of journalism at Long Island University and a frequent speaker at conferences, where she tried to guide aspiring but uninitiated writers along the publishing industry's intricate pathways. She was also a former president of the New York chapter of Theta Sigma Phi (now Women in Communications). Anita was a woman for all seasons.

She is survived by her daughter, Allyson, and two grandchildren. Her husband, Hal Berke, died in 1972. There will be a memorial service for Anita at the Williams Club on Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 6 p.m.



Anita Diamant

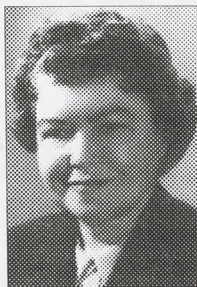
Irene Corbally Kuhn

By Elinor Griest

Just two weeks before her 98th birthday, OPC co-founder Irene Corbally Kuhn died on Dec. 30 at a home in Concord, Mass. Until the very end, the club was always close to her heart. She was proud of her part in its birth and of having been elected twice as vice president on its Board of Governors, among her many other contributions.

Her career began early. At age 16 she won an essay contest and decided to become a professional writer and see the world. From age 22 on, she travelled to six continents as a newspaper reporter, columnist, radio broadcaster, author and magazine writer. Yet "home," for most of her life, remained Greenwich Village in New York, where she was born and grew up in a large Irish-American family.

At a time when women were not encouraged, and rarely welcome, in newsrooms and broadcast studios, Irene pioneered her way with ingenuity, determination and proven talent. After graduating from Marymount College and



Irene Kuhn

Columbia University, she joined news staffs in New York (*Syracuse Herald*, *Daily Mirror*, *Daily News*, *World-Telegram* and NBC Radio), Paris (*Chicago Tribune*), Shanghai (*Evening Star*), and Honolulu (International News Service and *Star-Bulletin*). In between she travelled to other parts of the world.

In the 1930s she hosted one of the first interview shows for the Mutual Broadcasting Company. As a New York *World-Telegram* feature writer, she sent back the first stories from Britain on the political crisis brought on by the love affair between Wallis Simpson and Edward VIII.

By 1938, her drama-packed life had inspired an autobiography, *Assigned to Adventure*, which made the *New York Times* bestseller list.

On Palm Sunday in 1939—the year she joined NBC—Irene met eight other foreign correspondents for breakfast at the Algonquin Hotel in midtown. On that morning they launched the OPC. Fifty years later, in 1989, the Society of Professional Journalists named the Algonquin a "historic site in journalism."

In 1940 as NBC's assistant director of information, she originated the idea of "Good Neighbor" broadcasts to foster closer relations with Latin American countries. Then, as World War II was ending in the spring of 1945, she flew

over "the Hump" from India to China, where she managed to broadcast the first reports to the U.S. in August, from liberated Shanghai via a U.S. Seventh Fleet communications ship.

In later years, she wrote a syndicated column, "In My Opinion," for King Features, then as a freelancer contributed travel articles and reminiscences to various magazines, most notably a series for *Gourmet*.

Irene Corbally Kuhn will be remembered for many things. But above all, she will be remembered for her humanity and integrity in a ruthlessly competitive business. She never engaged in the no-holds-barred practice of covering people as public property without privacy rights. "From the time I began reporting," she once said, "I felt a sense of responsibility to those I wrote about, because you hold people's lives in your hands. You can destroy them—or you can give them a lift up."

A memorial service and reception, co-sponsored by the OPC, are planned for some time in April. Memorial donations may be made toward a scholarship in her name for students interested in international reporting. Please send contributions to: OPC Foundation (earmarked for "Irene Corbally Kuhn Scholarship Fund"), 320 East 42 St., New York, N.Y. 10017.

PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

BOGOTA: Frank Bajak, an AP correspondent in Berlin, became AP's chief of bureau in Bogota in December. He succeeded **Andrew Selsky**, 39, who earlier was appointed chief of AP's Iberian Services in Madrid. Bajak, 38, joined AP in Warsaw in 1982 and later worked in Albany, Newark and New York City.



Frank Bajak

CENTREVILLE, Va.: Arnold Zeitlin, who was AP bureau chief in Manila and later UPI's manager for Asia-Pacific in Hong Kong, writes that he's been on the move lately. Last year he was invited to Bucharest by the Romanian government. Among the people he talked with: President Ion Iliescu; opposition leader Emil Constantescu; and Sylviu Brucan, former Romanian ambassador to the U.S. and United Nations. Then in Washington at the Philippine Embassy, he had a reunion with Kit Tatad, now a Philippine senator who was press secretary for President Ferdinand E. Marcos in 1976 when the government expelled Zeitlin. "We had kissed and made up long ago, he didn't care much for Imelda [Marcos] either," Zeitlin says.

HONG KONG: Jim Laurie of ABC News has been named senior correspondent for China and Southeast Asia, to be based in Hong Kong. He will head a newly expanded Hong Kong bureau being developed in anticipation of the territory's return to China. An OPC Award winner and veteran foreign correspondent, Laurie has been in London for the past four years.

At a recent meeting of the International Federation of Journalists, Gov. **Chris Patten** of Hong Kong urged members to fight for press freedom after the British colony reverts to Chinese rule on July 1, 1997: "Not mincing my words, my advice to Hong Kong journalists, now and in the future, if you believe in yourselves, if you

believe in your profession, if you believe in Hong Kong, is the same: Fight like hell, every inch of the way!"

Edward A. Gargan of *The New York Times* reported from Hong Kong in January that newspaper owners in the British colony are being wooed aggressively by Beijing before the China takeover. He wrote that **Sally Aw Sian**, publisher of the daily newspaper *Sing Tao Jih Pao*, is a Beijing target "mainly for her access to the global Chinese diaspora through editions published in Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand and Britain. On her first visit to Beijing several years ago, she was received by President Jiang Zemin, a meeting that she took for what it was, an effort to win her over."

ISTANBUL: OPCer **Edward DeMarco** has moved from Atlanta to Istanbul where he is open for business. After four years as an international business reporter for the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*, he made the big move and has started reporting for *Newsweek*, *The Miami Herald* and CNN International. He is reachable at Feneryolu Sokak 53/B, Benin Apt. Kat 2-D.2, Kadikoy-Istanbul, 81040 Turkey. Telephone 90-216-418-0776 or E-mail at edwardd@doruk.com.tr.

ITHACA, N.Y.: OPCer **Dan Morris** received a certificate from Cornell University's Department of Communication "in recognition of his contributions to hundreds of Cornell students as a guest lecturer in 'Writing for Magazines' over a 20-year period from 1975 to 1995."

LONDON: **Carla Rapoport**, formerly European editor at *Fortune* magazine, is now publisher of *Kids Out!* magazine, a family-events publication based in London.

John Makinson, general manager of the *Financial Times*, has been elected to the board of the Pearson Communications group in the U.K. and will become its finance manager on April 1. Pearson chairman **Michael Blakenham** also announced that **David Bell** of the

Financial Times and **Greg Dyke** of Pearson Television will join the board as executive directors in March.

MELVILLE, N.Y.: **Timothy M. Phelps** is the new foreign editor of *Newsday*, one of several recent changes in the newspaper's foreign staff. Phelps moved to the foreign desk from Washington, where he covered the Supreme Court. Earlier, he was *Newsday's* Middle East correspondent based in Cairo. Phelps replaced **Jeff Sommer**, who left to join *The New York Times*. In other *Newsday* moves, **Susan Sacks** transferred from Cairo to Moscow, replacing **Ken Fireman**, who slid into an editor's chair in the home office. **Nick Goldberg** became Mideast correspondent, a post *Newsday* shifted from Cairo to Jerusalem.

NEW YORK: OPC member **Dan Rather** switched from air to rail to road to reach CBS in New York from Kuwait during the January blizzard along the U.S. east coast. On Sunday, Jan. 7, Rather took off from Kuwait on a scheduled non-stop flight to JFK. Near New York City, the plane was diverted to Newfoundland because of heavy snow. "I can safely say I was the only man in Gander with a bush desert jacket," Rather said. CBS chartered a plane to fly Rather from Gander to Albany, N.Y., where rail lines were open. About half way to Manhattan, snow stalled the train near Rhinebeck, N.Y. From there, a friend of a CBS producer drove Rather in what the broadcaster called a "beast of a truck" four hours to the city. Two hours later, Rather was on the air with Monday's 6:30 p.m. CBS Evening News.

Stephen Jukes became editor of Reuters America and executive vice president of Reuters America Holdings on Jan. 1. Based in Washington, Jukes, 41, previously was Reuters news editor in Nicosia for the Middle East and Africa. In his new post, Jukes is responsible for editorial production of all Reuters textual news, news pictures and television in the Americas.

Newsweek International announced several new editors in January. **Michael Elliot** became editor of the international editions: three published in English and distributed in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America; the

Japanese and Korean-language editions; and a co-publishing venture in Australia. Born in Liverpool, England in 1951, Elliot joined *Newsweek* in 1993 from *The Economist*, where he was Washington bureau chief. Editing of the Asia edition, formerly done in New York,



Steven Strasser



Michael Hirsh

was shifted to Hong Kong with **Steven Strasser** in charge. **Michael Hirsh**, who worked in Tokyo for AP and later *Institutional Investor*, was appointed a *Newsweek* senior editor in New York in charge of business and economics coverage.

Club member **David Hume Kennerly**, winner of an OPC award for his *Time* magazine pictures of the 1985 Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Geneva and a 1972 Pulitzer Prize for his UPI photography in Vietnam, has joined *Newsweek* as a contributing editor for photo.

PARIS: **Patrick Imhaus**, president of TV-5, the French international TV channel, is planning to start service to the United States by this spring. The service will include Deutsche Welle of Germany, TVE of Spain and RTP of Portugal.

Wole Soyinka, a Nigerian writer, late last year accepted the annual award of Reporters Sans Frontieres for his compatriot, **Christine Anyanwu**. Anyanwu was sentenced to 15 years in jail for her involvement in an attempted revolt against the military junta ruling Nigeria. Anyanwu was founder and editor of *Sunday Magazine*, an independent weekly that published information on the coup attempt.

SEOUL: *The Wall Street Journal's* Seoul correspondent, **Steve Glain**, has been transferred to Tokyo, where he has joined the *Asian Wall Street Journal* to cover economics. Also departing from Seoul is **John Burton**, the correspondent of the *Financial Times* and a former president of the Seoul Foreign Correspondent's Club.

SYDNEY: **James Cuming**, financial director for sales and marketing of Australian Associated Press (AAP), is setting up new news sources for the wire service after 40 years of association with Reuters. He reports concluding arrangements with Dow Jones Telerate, Bloomberg Business Services and Knight-Ridder Financial. For two years, Reuters will continue distribution of some AAP financial services.

TOKYO: **Hal Drake**, probably the longest-serving writer on *Pacific Stars & Stripes*, retired in November after 40 years on the daily military newspaper published in Tokyo. For years, Drake tried to join the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan but was barred. The club ruled that he was not a bonafide correspondent because he worked for a government newspaper, even though the club granted membership to TASS and *Pravda* correspondents. The rule later was amended, and Drake became a member. A police reporter in Los Angeles before joining *Stars & Stripes* in the 1950s, Drake and his Japanese wife, Kaz, retired to Australia.

No. 1 Shimbun, monthly publication of the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan, ran several articles in 1995 in which members past and present recalled World War II. **John Roderick**, who covered China, Japan and other Asia points for AP after the war, wrote about his wartime duty in China's Yunnan province with the OSS, precursor of the CIA: "My job with OSS was called Morale Operations, or MO. The idea was to demoralize the Japanese enemy through false newspaper and radio reports. In the closing months of the war, several hundred surrendered on the strength of some of these blandishments. I demoralized no one except myself." **Frank Tremaine**, who covered the war for United Press from Pearl Harbor to Japan's surrender, wrote about arranging an interview with **Emperor Hirohito** for **Hugh Baillie**, then UP's president. No give-and-take interview was allowed. Instead, written questions were submitted in advance, and written answers were handed to Baillie at the end of the audience. Tremaine recalled the audience with Hirohito: "Tea was served to Baillie in his war correspondent's uniform, the Emperor in a frock coat, striped trousers, stiff batwing collar and fore-in-hand tie, and three members

of the Imperial staff and a translator, all similarly attired....In the written answers, Hirohito said Japan was on 'an entirely new footing and will prove itself equal to memberships in the family of nations'."

WASHINGTON: **Joe Byrns Sills** became director of the U.N. Information Center in Washington in January after serving as spokesman for U.N. Secretary-General **Boutros Boutros-Ghali**. **Sylvana Foa**, a former UPI correspondent in Asia and an editor in Washington, replaced Sills in New York.

DECEASED: **Alexander C. Sedgwick**, a former *New York Times* correspondent who covered the British Eighth Army's desert campaign in North Africa in World War II, died on Jan. 19 in Athens, Greece. He was 94. Born in Stockbridge, Mass., and a 1924 graduate of Harvard, Sedgwick worked for *The New York World*, *The New York Times* and AP before moving to Europe, where he rejoined *The Times* in 1937 as Athens correspondent. He covered the British victory over the Germans in the Battle of El Alamein and later was wounded by German mortar fire. Sedgwick wrote two novels, *Wind Without Rain* and *Tell Sparta*, and he was made a member of the Order of the British Empire in 1945.

Tom Pettit, 64, who was an NBC correspondent in Los Angeles, Washington, New York and London, died in New York's Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center on Dec. 22 of complications following surgery to repair a ruptured aorta. He was executive vice president of NBC News from 1982 to 1985, retiring from the network in 1994. Pettit was the only broadcaster on the scene and on the air in 1963 when Jack Ruby shot Lee Harvey Oswald, suspected assassin of President Kennedy, at Dallas City Jail.

Michael Emery, whose book on foreign correspondents was published in October, died on Dec. 13 of cancer in Woodland Hills, California. He was 55 and a professor of journalism at California State University, Northridge. A former UPI reporter, Emery was a foreign correspondent in the Middle East and Central America. His 1995 book, *On the Front Lines: Following*

(Continued on Page 8)

Moscow Correspondents to Reminisce about Bad Old Days

Former Moscow correspondents for U.S. media will gather in March to wine and dine and reminisce about the bad old days under Stalin, Khrushchev, Brezhnev and their successors.

Over 100 correspondents and their spouses are expected to attend the reunion, organized by the OPC—the first since 1983. They will include at least five generations of reporters who covered Moscow from World War II, through the Cold War and *glasnost* to the demise of the Soviet Union. Among the guests will be U.S. ambassadors who served in Moscow.

Also to be honored are the correspondents who were expelled by the Russians, accused of violating undefined reporting regulations.

Whitman Bassow, who served in Moscow with UPI and subsequently as *Newsweek* bureau chief, is reunion chairman.

"We'll have a Russian pianist to pro-

vide the background music with those old favorites of Moscow Radio. Nostalgia will flow as copiously as the vodka," he predicts.

Speakers will include correspondents who will talk briefly about the era they reported from Moscow.

All correspondents, photographers, and TV producers who served with U.S. media in Moscow are invited to the reunion reception and dinner.

The reunion will be held at the historic Seventh Regiment Armory in New York City on Friday, March 22. The bar opens at 6:00 p.m.; dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. Exhibits will feature photos, posters, front pages of historic news stories and other memorabilia.

Providing advice and assistance is an ad hoc Reunion Committee which includes former Moscow correspondents **Rose Brady** (*Business Week*), **Ann Cooper** (National Public Radio), **Jack Raymond** (*New York Times*), **Carroll**

Bogert (*Newsweek*), **Steve Handelman** (*Toronto Star*), **Larry Martz** (*World Press Review*) and **Fred Ferguson** (PR Newswire).

The 1983 reunion was well-attended by UPI Moscow alumni, headed by **Walter Cronkite**, who put in an almost unendurable Cold War stint from 1946 to 1948. Other staffers included **Peggy Polk**, **Walter Wisniewski**, **Whit Bassow** (expelled) and **Fred Coleman**. The AP was represented by **John Bausman**, **Frank Crepeau**, **Reinhold (Gus) Ensz**, **Tom Kent**, **George Krinsky** (expelled), **Roger Leddington**, **Angelo Natale**, and **Barton Reppert**.

Four former ambassadors showed up for the party: **Jacob Beam**, **Walter Stoessel**, **Malcolm Toon**, and **Thomas J. Watson**.

For tickets and further information, contact OPC manager **Sonya Fry** at 212 983-4655 (phone) or 212 983-4692 (fax).

PEOPLE

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America's Foreign Correspondents Across the Twentieth Century (Washington, American University Press) deals with foreign reporting from Sarajevo in 1914 to Baghdad in 1990. He and his father, Edwin, wrote *The Press and America* (Prentice Hall), a textbook used in more than 200 colleges and now in its eighth printing.

NEW MEMBERS: **Emily Schwartz**, freelance correspondent, formerly of Dow Jones Emerging Markets Report in Brazil (active overseas).

Michael Shari, stringer for *Business Week* and *Time* based in Jakarta (active overseas).

William Glasgall, senior writer for *Business Week* in New York (active resident).

Sarah Miller, editor-in-chief of *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly* in New York (active resident).

Juliette Rossant, reporter for *Forbes* in New York (junior member).

Shiv Shankar Mukherjee, Minister of Press, Information & Culture at the Embassy of India in Washington (associate member).

Chris Wells, senior vice president of The Freedom Forum in Arlington, Va. (associate member).

Charles F. Donnelly, president and chief executive officer of Watermark Communications in New York (affiliate member).

VALENTINE'S PARTY
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14
6-8:30 P.M.
Tudor Regency Lounge

ANITA DIAMANT
MEMORIAL SERVICE
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21
6 P.M.
Williams Club

THE ONLINE REVOLUTION:
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28
5-7 P.M.
1251 Ave. of the Americas

The Overseas Press Club of America
320 East 42nd Street, Mezzanine
New York, New York 10017 USA